REMARKS

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's careful examination of this case. Reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested in view of the instant remarks.

The Applicant agrees with the Office Action Summary as set out on page 1 of the Office Action.

The Applicant agrees with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Office Action as set out on page 2 of the Office Action.

In view of paragraph 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 7 and 8 have been amended to alter the word "the" to "an". The amendments to claims 7 and 8 thus deal with the objection in paragraph 4 on page 2 of the Office Action.

With regard to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1 – 6 and 8 as being anticipated by Roddy et al (US Patent No. 6,762,785 B2). The Examiner states as follows:

> Roddy et al discloses a first light source (Fig. 8, item 12) and a primary modulator (Figure 3, item 26R - [typing error should be Figure 8, item 26R]) for modulating light from the first light source.

Item 26R is in fact identified in the Parts List (Column 9) as a Shutter, red light path. Items 26G, 26B and 26BG are also identified as shutters.

This indicates that the light sources are modulated in a simple on or off basis by the shutters and not spatially modulated. Roddy et al (column 7, lines 59-61) states:

> "Fig. 8 shows color printer 10 as a four laser writer that uses a single spatial light modulator 20 for sequential exposure of color images."

The above confirms that the light sources sequentially illuminate the modulator in turn to expose a color image. This also confirms that the item 26R is a shutter used to facilitate sequential illumination and consequently sequential exposure of the color images in the color printer disclosed by Roddy et al.

The modulator 26R for the first light source is not a spatial light modulator but a simple shutter for either turning the first light source on or off A shutter is unable to control the light spatially in accordance with any video information.

The combiner (Figure 8, item 35) disclosed by Roddy et al is used to relay light from each of the light sources sequentially in turn by use of the

shutters to the modulator (Figure 8, item 20). This is not an auxiliary modulator but is the only spatial light modulator disclosed by Roddy et al as the others have already been disclosed as shutters.

Roddy et al discloses shutters, not modulators, for each of the light sources as these are required to sequentially illuminate the spatial light modulator 20. The sequential illumination disclosed by Roddy et al indicates that the coloured light beams are not combined at any time as only one of the beams is "on", illuminating the spatial light modulator at any particular time.

Roddy et al does not disclose which is in claim 1 of the Blackham patent application as there is only a single spatial light modulator shown in the color printer of Figure 8 which modulates each light source sequentially in turn via the use of shutters in each light path of the various light sources.

Claim 1 of the present Blackham patent application does not disclose shutters or sequential illumination of the spatial light modulator. The light from the first light source is spatially modulated by the at least one primary spatial light modulator and it is this spatially modulated light which is combined with light from the second light source which has not been modulated. Light from the second light source is not modulated by a primary modulator. Modulated light from the first light source which has been modulated by a primary spatial light modulator is combined optically with light from the second light source

which has undergone no primary modulation such that this combined light undergoes modulation by the auxiliary spatial light modulator and is then projected as an image to the screen. Both primary and secondary modulators are modulated spatially with video information which can be the same for each, or may be different for the primary or secondary modulator.

Thus, the Blackham claim 1 is not disclosed by Roddy et al.

With respect to the Blackham claim 2, Roddy et al does not disclose a primary modulator for red light and a second primary modulator for modulating blue light etc. but as discussed above, discloses a shutter for each of the light sources to enable the spatial light modulator 20 to be illuminated sequentially.

The Blackham claims 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 are believed to be allowable as they are dependent on the Blackham claim 1, which has not been disclosed by Roddy et al as discussed above.

With regard to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Office Action, the invention disclosed by Roddy et al is also for a colour printer (column 7, line 59). The invention disclosed by Ohara et al (US Patent No. 4,535,342) is for a device using a laser beam recording. The Blackham patent application is for an image display apparatus, typically a projection image display device for displaying images by projection means. It is respectfully submitted that it

would not be obvious to use technology from either of the Roddy et al and Ohara et al patents to arrive at the Blackham invention which is in a different technical field and which deals with different problems to the Roddy et al and Ohara et al patents. Also, claim 7 is dependent on claim 1, and claim 1 is believed to be allowable for the reasons specified above.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this **RESPONSE** is found to be **INCOMPLETE**, or if at any time it appears that a **TELEPHONE CONFERENCE** with Counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or one of his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts, at (781) 890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,

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